

COURT ANNUAL CASE ACTIVITY

Narrative Summary

State Fiscal Year 2020

Statewide fiscal year (FY) 2020 statistics across all court levels – Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Superior Court and limited jurisdiction courts – are summarized for case filings, dispositions and protective orders.

Case Filings

Case filings in Arizona’s courts decreased by 14.6%, from 1,868,272 in FY 2019 to 1,596,428 in FY 2020. During the same period traffic filings decreased by 178,850 filings or 17.4%. Criminal filings decreased by 11.3% from 368,753 in FY 2019 to 326,593 in FY 2020. Civil filings decreased this year, down from 363,182 in FY 2019 to 330,434 in FY 2020, a decrease of 9.0%. The category for “Other” filings which includes various appellate cases, local non-criminal violations in the limited jurisdiction courts and other miscellaneous filings, decreased by 16.5%.

Appellate court filings decreased during FY 2020, by 8.6%; comparably, Superior Court filings decreased by 8.1%. Filings in the limited jurisdiction courts decreased by 15.3% from last fiscal year, justice court filings decreased 13.0% while municipal court filings decreased 17.2% during the same period.

Dispositions

Total case dispositions (including transfers out) decreased by 15.6%, from 1,992,713 in FY 2019 to 1,682,531 in FY 2020. Criminal dispositions decreased by 8.3% and civil dispositions decreased by 10.7%. Traffic dispositions decreased by 19.4%.

Protective Orders

Petitions for order of protection decreased from 34,416 in FY 2019 to 31,390 in FY 2020, a decrease of 8.8%. In addition, 14,149 petitions for injunctions against harassment were filed statewide during FY 2020, down 1,687 filings.

Figure 1

Filings and Terminations FY 2020 Compared to FY 2019

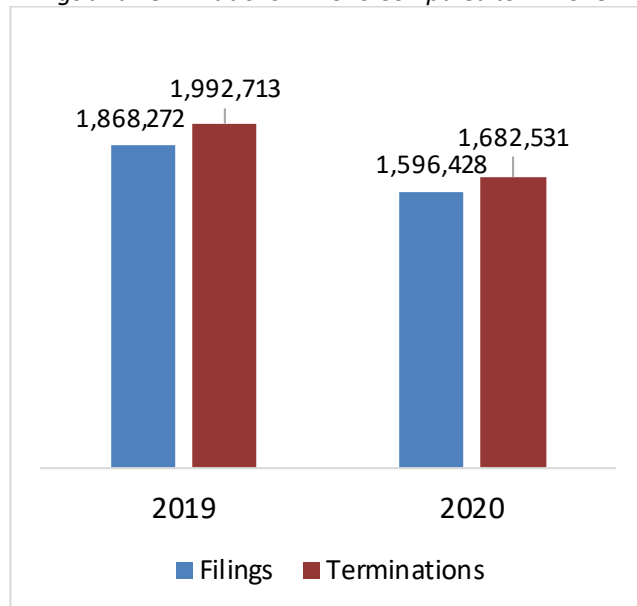
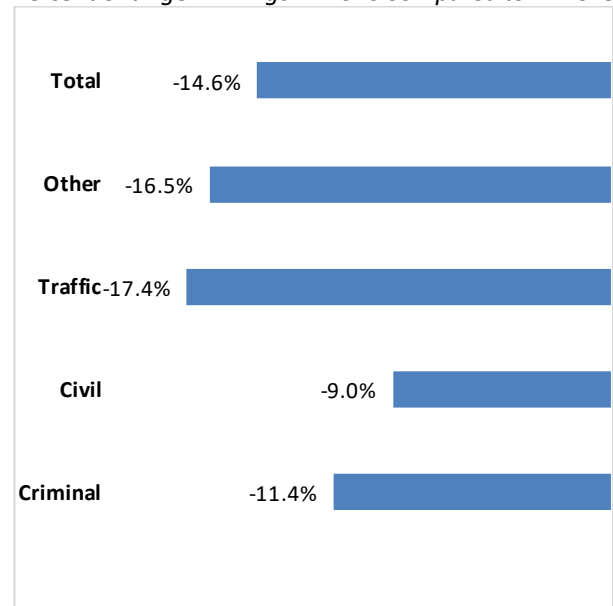


Figure 2

Percent Change in Filings FY 2020 Compared to FY 2019



Note. Some of the FY 2020 figures may not correspond to figures published in last year's Data Report due to corrected information received subsequent to publication of the report. Statistical reports received from courts are checked for mathematical accuracy but are not audited by the Supreme Court.

**ARIZONA SUPREME COURT
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
COURT SERVICES DIVISION**

Annual Case Activity Summary State Fiscal Year 2020										
Categories	2020						2019 Total [1]			
	Supreme Court	Court of Appeals	Superior Court	Justice Courts	Municipal Courts	Total				
Case Filings										
Criminal[2]	5	951	45,627	108,691	171,319	326,593	368,753			
Civil[3]	10	2,373	120,435	207,616		330,434	363,182			
Traffic[4]				324,659	523,223	847,882	1,026,732			
Other[5]	1,056		12,705	1763	75,995	91,519	109605			
Total	1,071	3,324	178,767	642,729	770,537	1,596,428	1,868,272			
Case Dispositions										
Criminal[2]	4	1,039	47,562	143,860	152,961	345,426	376,814			
Civil[3]	7	2,465	117,044	219,551	0	339,067	379,670			
Traffic[4]				362,545	544,067	906,612	1,124,889			
Other[5]	1,036		13,254	1559	75,577	91,426	111,340			
Total	1,047	3,504	177,860	727,515	772,605	1,682,531	1,992,713			
Order of Protection Petitions / Emergency Order of Protection Petitions										
Petitions Filed						11,391	8,013	11,986	31,390	34,416
Petitions Disposed						11,404	7,847	11,732	30,983	34,173
Injunctions Against Harassment										
Petitions Filed						3,197	5,310	5,642	14,149	15,836
Petitions Disposed						3,102	5,159	5,515	13,776	15,764

NOTES:

[1] SOME FIGURES DIFFER FROM THOSE IN THE FY 2018 DATA REPORT DUE TO CORRECTED INFORMATION RECEIVED SUBSEQUENT TO ITS PUBLICATION.

[2] CRIMINAL DATA INCLUDE POST-CONVICTION RELIEF CASES IN THE SUPREME COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS, BOTH MISDEMEANORS AND FELONIES IN SUPERIOR AND JUSTICE COURTS, MISDEMEANORS IN MUNICIPAL COURTS. MISDEMEANORS INCLUDE ALL FAILURE-TO-APPEAR COMPLAINTS REGARDLESS OF THE ORIGINAL CHARGE

[3] CIVIL DATA INCLUDE CIVIL, DOMESTIC RELATIONS, PROBATE, AND MENTAL HEALTH CASES IN SUPERIOR COURT, AND CIVIL, SMALL CLAIMS AND FORCIBLE DETAINER CASES IN JUSTICE COURTS.

[4] TRAFFIC DATA INCLUDE BOTH CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS.

[5] OTHER DATA INCLUDE PETITIONS FOR REVIEW IN THE SUPREME COURT, ALL CASES EXCEPT CRIMINAL, POST-CONVICTION RELIEF, AND CIVIL APPEALS IN THE SUPREME COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS, JUVENILE AND ARIZONA TAX COURT CASES IN SUPERIOR COURT, AND NON-CRIMINAL LOCAL ORDINANCES IN JUSTICE AND MUNICIPAL COURT.